



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

July 5, 2019

RE: 2019-05-153

Ted Timmons  
MuckRock News  
DEPT MR 72336  
411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Email: 72276-13947020@requests.muckrock.com

**VIA EMAIL**

Dear Mr. Timmons,

This is the Department of the Treasury's (Treasury) final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated April 26, 2019. You requested "All materials at the Treasury Department related to Otto Warmbier (December 12, 1994 – June 19, 2017). Warmbier was imprisoned while visiting North Korea and died shortly after his 2017 release. His death was widely publicized. In April 2019 it was reported that a "\$2 million bill from North Korea" was given to the Treasury Department. (links to reporting below) Please furnish the bill, invoice or similar request; any related correspondence and discussion the Treasury Department has in records; and any other files related to Otto Warmbier in the Treasury's records."

Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552. A reasonable search was conducted for records responsive to your request. A search for records resulted in no documents being located in response to your request.

There are no fees assessed at this time.

Since Treasury's response constitutes an adverse action, you have the right to appeal this determination within 90 days from the date of this letter. By filing an appeal, you preserve your rights under FOIA and give the agency a chance to review and reconsider your request and the agency's decision. Your appeal must be in writing, signed by you or your representative, and should contain the rationale for your appeal. Please also cite the FOIA reference number noted above. Your appeal should be addressed to:

FOIA Appeal  
FOIA and Transparency  
Privacy, Transparency, and Records  
Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20220

If you submit your appeal by mail, clearly mark the letter and the envelope with the words “Freedom of Information Act Appeal.” Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within **90 days** from the date of this letter.

If you would like to discuss this response before filing an appeal to attempt to resolve your dispute without going through the appeals process, you may contact Paul Levitan, the FOIA Public Liaison, for assistance via email at [FOIAPL@treasury.gov](mailto:FOIAPL@treasury.gov), or via phone at (202) 622-8098.

A FOIA Public Liaison is a supervisory official to whom FOIA requesters can raise questions or concerns about the agency’s FOIA process. FOIA Public Liaisons can explain agency records, suggest agency offices that may have responsive records, provide an estimated date of completion, and discuss how to reformulate and/or reduce the scope of requests in order to minimize fees and expedite processing time.

If you are unable to resolve your FOIA dispute through our FOIA Public Liaison, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) also mediates disputes between FOIA requesters and federal agencies as a non-exclusive alternative to litigation. If you wish to contact OGIS, you may contact the agency directly at the following address, emails, fax or telephone numbers:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
8601 Adelphi Road – OGIS  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
Email: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)  
Telephone: 202-741-5770  
Toll free: 1-877-684-6448  
Fax: 202-741-5769

Please note that contacting any agency official (including the FOIA analyst, FOIA Requester Service Center, FOIA Public Liaison) and/or OGIS is not an alternative to filing an administrative appeal and does not stop the 90-day appeal clock.

If additional questions arise concerning this action, please contact Samuel Giovannucci at (202) 622-1391; or via email at [FOIA@treasury.gov](mailto:FOIA@treasury.gov). Please reference 2019-05-153.

Sincerely,

Paul Levitan  
Director, FOIA & Transparency

Enclosure:  
Copy of original FOIA request